



Risca Urban District Council

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Medical Officer's &  
Public Health Inspector's

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

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FOR THE YEAR  
1972

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## **RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Members of the Council**

Chairman — Councillor G. Whatley  
Vice-Chairman — Councillor K. G. Ravenhill

### **North Ward**

Councillor M. Huntley, J.P.  
Councillor H. H. R. Jones  
Councillor S. W. Jones  
Councillor W. Jones  
Councillor L. S. Llewellyn  
Councillor G. Whatley

### **Central Ward**

Councillor G. C. Browning  
Councillor W. H. Jones  
Councillor A. G. Leaman  
Councillor E. Richards  
Councillor J. H. A. Roberts  
Councillor A. S. R. West

### **South Ward**

Councillor R. J. Beacham, J.P.  
Councillor W. J. Chivers  
Councillor I. Davies  
Councillor A. C. Powe  
Councillor K. G. Ravenhill  
Councillor A. J. Rosser

### **Clerk of the Council**

T. L. Cowlin, F.C.I.S.

### **Engineer and Surveyor**

D. H. B. Tarr, M.I.Mun.E., M.I.Struct.E.

### **Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer**

K. Lewis, A.I.M.T.A.

### **Medical Officer of Health**

Dr. L. J. Powell, M.B., B.Ch.,  
B.Sc., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

### **Public Health Inspector**

Glyn M. Jenkins, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.



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# Risca Urban District Council

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ended 31st December, 1972

*To the Chairman and Members of the Risca Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for your District for the year ended 31st December, 1972. This report is compiled according to instructions contained in Circular (MOH) No. 3/1973.

### SECTION "A"

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA

|  |     |     |     |          |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area of the District (in acres)        | ... | ... | ... | 4,199    |
| Population 1972                        | ... | ... | ... | 15,710   |
| Sum represented by 1p rate (estimated) | ... | ... | ... | £3,625   |
| Rateable Value                         | ... | ... | ... | £378,851 |

#### *Vital Statistics*

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Live Births   | Male 145, Female 120, Total 265 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | ... 17.2                        |
| The Birth Rate for England and Wales                      | ... 14.8                        |
| The Birth Rate for Monmouthshire was                      | ... 15.8                        |

#### *Infant Mortality*

|   | Total | Males | Females |
|---|-------|-------|---------|
| Death of Infants under 1 year                                   | 3     | 1     | 2       |
| Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births | ...   | ...   | 11.0    |
| Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population       | ...   | ...   | 13.9    |
| Death Rate for England and Wales                                | ...   | ...   | 12.1    |
| Death Rate for County of Monmouth                               | ...   | ...   | 13.1    |
| Infant Death Rate for County of Monmouth                        | ...   | ...   | 17.0    |
| Infant Death Rate for England and Wales                         | ...   | ...   | 17.0    |



### *Ages at death of Children under 1 year*

|                     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Under 1 week        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2     |
| 1-2 weeks           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —     |
| 2-3 weeks           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —     |
| 3-4 weeks           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —     |
|                     |     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> |
| Total under 1 month | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2     |
| 1-3 months          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —     |
| 3-6 months          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1     |
| 6-9 months          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —     |
| 9-12 months         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —     |
|                     |     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> |
| Total under 1 year  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3     |
|                     |     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> |

There are no special causes of sickness during the year which need reporting on. The general conditions of health were good.

### **CAUSES OF DEATH**

|  | M. | F. |
|--|----|----|
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System     | 1  | —  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. | 1  | —  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus         | 1  | —  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach            | 4  | 3  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine          | 3  | 3  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus     | 11 | 3  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Breast             | —  | 2  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus             | —  | 1  |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate           | 6  | —  |
| Leukaemia                              | 2  | —  |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms              | 4  | 9  |
| Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms       | 1  | —  |
| Diabetes Mellitus                      | 1  | 2  |
| Anaemias                               | 2  | —  |
| Multiple Sclerosis                     | 1  | —  |
| Other Diseases of Nervous System       | 1  | —  |
| Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease        | 4  | 2  |
| Hypertensive Disease                   | 3  | 2  |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease                | 41 | 22 |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease           | 4  | 5  |
| Cerebrovascular Disease                | 5  | 12 |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System   | 3  | 5  |
| Pneumonia                              | 9  | 7  |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema               | 12 | 4  |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System   | 2  | —  |
| Peptic Ulcer                           | 1  | 1  |
| Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia      | 1  | 1  |

|  | M.         | F.        |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Other Diseases of Digestive System ... ..    | 2          | —         |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..               | —          | 1         |
| Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ... .. | —          | 4         |
| Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ... ..   | —          | 1         |
| Congenital Anomalies ... ..                  | 1          | —         |
| Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ... ..   | —          | 1         |
| Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions ... ..   | 1          | —         |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..               | 1          | 1         |
| All Other Accidents ... ..                   | 3          | —         |
| <b>TOTAL ALL CAUSES ... ..</b>               | <b>132</b> | <b>92</b> |

### *Social Conditions*

The chief industries carried on in the area are quarrying, manufacture of bricks and plastics, light engineering, production of civil engineering castings and scrap metal recovery and processing.

## **SECTION " B "**

### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

1. *Public Health Officers of the Authority.* One Medical Officer of Health (Part-time) and two Public Health Inspectors (whole-time Officers).

2. *Hospital Services.* Hospital Services are administered by the Regional Hospital Board as and from 5th July, 1948.

The Monmouthshire County Council is responsible for administering the following services under Part III of the Act:—

- (a) Care of Mothers and Young Children
- (b) Midwifery Services
- (c) Health Visiting
- (d) Home Nursing
- (e) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (f) Ambulance Services
- (g) Prevention of Illness (Care and After-Care)
- (h) Domestic Help Scheme
- (i) Duties under Lunacy and Mental Treatment and Mental Deficiency Acts.



## SECTION " C "

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. *Water Supply*

The Water Authority responsible for the supply and distribution in the Risca area is the Gwent Water Board. All domestic and industrial premises are served by a piped water supply, the water is both filtered and chlorinated, except for the Ocherwyth supply where the water is not filtered but is chlorinated. It is the Board's intention to place the Ocherwyth area on main supply in the near future.

The Gwent Water Board carries out regular sampling of the water supply, visiting domestic premises within the area. Copies of their bacteriological and chemical reports are forwarded to me and all have proved satisfactory.

We as a Public Health Authority also take samples of water and submit them to the Public Health Laboratory at Newport. Again I am pleased to report that all samples taken have proved to be satisfactory.

A few isolated dwellings in the area do not have main supply but rely on water shed catchment tanks or springs for their water supply. Samples have been taken from all supplies of this nature and in one case it was necessary to ask that modifications be carried out to the catchment tank. Since these modifications have been carried out, however, water samples have been taken which have proved to be satisfactory.

#### 2. *Rivers and Streams*

##### *Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951*

The administration of the above enactment is, as far as the rivers Ebbw and Sirhowy are concerned, vested with the Usk River Authority. Any complaints received by me are immediately forwarded to the Officers of the Authority for such action as they consider necessary.

The Department of the Environment in conjunction with the Welsh Office reported in 1970 on their findings in connection with a river pollution survey that had been carried out of the whole country. In the report the river Ebbw was classified as a Class 4 river for its entire length, being a grossly polluted river. The pollution is mostly of a chemical nature which enters the river at Ebbw Vale. During the year the 1970 report was updated but the River Ebbw was still categorised within the Grade 4 category. However, a new treatment plant is being installed at the Ebbw Vale Steel Works and the quality of the river water is slowly improving.

#### 3. *Closet Accommodation*

Particulars will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

#### 4. *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*

A classified statement of the premises visited, the defects and nuisances discovered and the action and result of action taken with regard to these will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

#### 5. *Food Premises*

All food premises and mobile shops have during the year received



periodic visits from your Public Health Inspectors. Where contraventions of either the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 or the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 have been observed notices have been served asking for their compliance.

6. *Adulterations*

A number of complaints were received during the year concerning articles of food purchased in the area not being of the nature, substance or quality demanded, being contrary to Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955. For details see Public Health Inspector's report.

7. *Smoke Abatement*

Complaints regarding the emission of smoke, chiefly from local industries are received from time to time. Appropriate action is taken to deal with these complaints as they arise.

8. *Pollution*

In the field of environmental pollution it is difficult to set maximum allowable concentrations for various pollutants in differing media such as air, water, food and soil. Medical knowledge has not yet determined the levels of concentration of various substances which can be present without causing ill effects on human health.

However, during 1972 an important start has been made by the <sup>WORLD HEALTH</sup> ~~Welsh~~ ~~Health Council~~ <sup>ORGANISATION</sup> in laying down criteria for five urban air pollutants; sulphur oxides, suspended particulates, CO, photo chemical oxidants, and NO<sub>2</sub>; and in the case of the first four, has been able to indicate the concentrations at which some effects on health might be apparent.

I am glad to report that all monitoring which has taken place in the Risca area has shown readings well below the concentrations mentioned above.

A lead peroxide candle to measure the amount of sulphur trioxide in the atmosphere was installed at "The Mount" Penrhiw in September 1960 as part of a scheme agreed by local authorities in South Monmouthshire to measure possible atmospheric pollution from the Spencer Steelworks at Llanwern.

Monthly reports as to the amounts of sulphur trioxide have been received from Dr. James, Public Analyst.

During the year the highest reading was 0.98 m.g. of sulphur trioxide (S.O<sub>3</sub>) collected by 100 sq. cm. of lead peroxide per day and the lowest 0.11 m.g.

I consider the results for the year to be quite satisfactory.

The following is a record of the readings taken from the candle since it was fixed in September, 1960 :—

|      | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Jan. |      | 0.77 | 0.75 | 0.48 | 0.92 | 0.94 | 1.23 | 0.80 | 0.52 | 0.94 | 1.23 | 0.78 | 0.95 |
| Feb. |      | 0.68 | 0.67 | 1.47 | 1.08 | 0.77 | 0.98 | 1.55 | 0.84 | 0.36 | 0.71 | 1.08 | 0.69 |
| Mar. |      | 1.03 | 0.60 | 0.86 | 0.85 | 0.99 | 0.50 | 0.46 | 0.73 | 1.12 | 0.82 | 0.78 | 0.64 |





(c) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:—

|   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..  | 7 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..   | 1 |
| (3) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..   | — |
| (4) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. | — |

#### 4. *Housing Act, 1957. Overcrowding*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..      | — |
| (b) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..      |   |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...                            |   |
| (c) Particulars of any houses becoming overcrowded after first relief ... .. | — |

## SECTION " E "

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply*.—Samples of milk have been taken and examined for bacterial content, under the various Milk and Dairies Orders. For details see Public Health Inspector's Report.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods*.—For Action taken with regard to Meat and other Foods, Slaughter Houses, etc., see Public Health Inspector's Report.

(c) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food*.—Ample use is made of the facilities provided by the County Laboratory.

(d) *Nutrition*.—No action has been taken under this Section.

## SECTION " F "

### Schedule of Vaccination and Immunisation procedures in childhood and their timing

| Age  | Prophylactic  | Interval  | Notes  |
|--|---|---|--|
| During the first year                                | Dipt/Tet/<br>Pertussis and<br>Oral Polio<br>Vaccine<br>1st dose<br>2nd dose<br>3rd dose | at 6 mths. old<br>6 wks. later<br>6 mths. later | The earliest at which the 1st dose should be given is 3 months, but better if wait until 6 months old. |
| During the second year<br>At 5 years<br>School Entry | Measles<br>Vaccine<br><br>Dip/Tet and<br>Oral Polio<br>(Booster dose)                   |   |  |
| At school leaving age for girls only.<br>14 years.   | Rubella<br>(German Measles)   |   | Should be offered to girls between 11th and 14th Birthdays.  |

In the field of Vaccination and Immunisation, as in all other sections of medicine, change is going on all the time as a result of research.

The above schedule reflects two major changes in policy namely the inclusion of vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) for the first time and the exclusion of small pox vaccination after 131 years.

#### *Rubella vaccination for girls aged 11 years to 14 years*

The significance of this development is that German Measles may produce deformed children if the mother acquires the disease during the first three months of pregnancy.

If a woman who has not had rubella could be safely vaccinated against the disease then she would no longer need to fear the risk of acquiring the disease when she became pregnant, with the possible risk of producing a deformed child.

Thus it is hoped that as many girls as possible are offered protection against German Measles before they reach normal child-bearing age. Also, because about 90 per cent of cases of rubella occur in children, vaccination of this age group is expected to reduce



significantly the transmission of the virus in the community. Therefore, because of diminished likelihood of exposure to Rubella, pregnant women will also be protected indirectly.

*Smallpox Vaccination*

Smallpox Vaccination in infancy for more than a century has been one of the fixed points of preventive medicine. For 131 years, since the Vaccination Act of 1840, policy remained unchanged, but in July, 1971 the Chief Medical Officer informed all Doctors that Vaccination against Smallpox need not now be recommended as a routine procedure in early childhood.

The background to this change of policy is that during the past twenty years in this country there have been 100 deaths from vaccination compared with thirty-seven deaths from Smallpox.

However, it must be stressed that Health Service workers, and travellers to areas where Smallpox is still endemic, must continue to be protected by Smallpox vaccination.

*Family Planning*

Pollution of the environment is man made and would diminish if there were fewer human beings . We are told that if fertility goes unchecked the population of the world will double by the turn of the century. A greater interest in family planning means a better quality of life for each child born.

Family planning advice is given at the Risca Clinic. This Clinic is run by Monmouthshire County Council Health Department. Screenings for cervical and breast cancer are also carried out during the same sessions at this centre.

The National Health Service Family Planning Amendment Act, 1972 became law on 26th October, 1972. It's main purpose is to place vasectomy on the same basis as other contraceptive services.

All Family Planning advice is offered free of charge to all who wish to have this, and free contraceptive supplies will be available for those with a special medical need, others being required to pay only the standard prescription charge for their supplies.

There were 9 fewer births in the area during 1972 than in 1971.

| Age<br>Periods | Tuberoulosis   |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
|----------------|----------------|----|-------------------|-----|-----------|----|-------------------|----|
|                | Cases Notified |    |                   |     | Deaths    |    |                   |    |
|                | Pulmonary      |    | Non-<br>Pulmonary |     | Pulmonary |    | Non-<br>Pulmonary |    |
|                | M.             | F. | M.                | F.  | M.        | F. | M.                | F. |
| 0- 1           |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 1- 5           |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 5-15           |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 15-25          |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 25-35          |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 35-45          |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 45-65          |                | 1  |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| 65 and over    |                |    |                   |     |           |    |                   |    |
| Total          |                | 1  |                   | NIL |           |    |                   |    |

### Inspections of Factories and Workshops

| Premises                           | Inspections    | Written Notices | Prosecutions  |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Factories with Mechanical Power    | 10             | —               | —             |
| Factories without Mechanical Power | —              | —               | —             |
|                                    | <hr/> 10 <hr/> | <hr/> — <hr/>   | <hr/> — <hr/> |

### Defects Found in Factories and Workshops

|                                | Defects found | Defects remedied | Refer to H.M. Insp. | Prosecutions |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Want of Cleanliness ...        | 2             | 2                | —                   | —            |
| Overcrowding ...               | —             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Unreasonable Temperature       | —             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Inadequate Ventilation ...     | 1             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | —             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Sanitary Conveniences ...      | —             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Insufficient ...               | 2             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Unsuitable or defective...     | 2             | 2                | —                   | —            |
| Not separate for sexes ...     | —             | —                | —                   | —            |
| Other offences ...             | —             | —                | —                   | —            |

In conclusion, I should like to thank all officers of all departments of the Council for their kind and willing co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman,

Your obedient servant,

L. J. POWELL,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

# Analysis of Total Cases and Deaths from Infectious Diseases according to Age Groups.

[illegible]



# Risca Urban District Council

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31st December, 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the Risca Urban District Council—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report of the work accomplished by the Public Health Department for the year ended 31st December, 1972.

#### Statement of Sanitary and Housing Work completed during the year

##### Exterior

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Roofs repaired and made weatherproof .. .. .    | 24 |
| External walls repaired or repointed .. .. .    | 14 |
| Doors and frames repaired or renewed .. .. .    | 12 |
| Eavesgutters repaired or renewed .. .. .        | 26 |
| Rainwater downpipes repaired or renewed .. .. . | 24 |
| Chimney stacks repaired .. .. .                 | 16 |

##### Interior

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Floors repaired or renewed .. .. .  | 27 |
| Windows repaired or renewed .. .. . | 82 |
| Walls replastered .. .. .           | 35 |
| Ceilings replastered .. .. .        | 35 |
| Window cords fixed .. .. .          | 35 |

##### Drainage

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed .. .. .                 | 12 |
| Flush pipe repaired or renewed .. .. .                        | 4  |
| Burst water pipes repaired .. .. .                            | 5  |
| Seats repaired or renewed .. .. .                             | 4  |
| Drains repaired .. .. .                                       | 7  |
| Inspection Chambers repaired and provided with covers .. .. . | 8  |
| New pedestal pans provided and fixed .. .. .                  | 4  |



## FOOD INSPECTION

The following are particulars of meat and other foodstuffs surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption during the year :—

|  |     |     |     |     |                      |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|
| 2 Tins Veal                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | Blown Condition      |
| 8 Tins Pork Shoulder                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 2 Tins Corned Beef                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 1 Tin Ox Tongue                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 3 Tins Cooked Ham                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 1 Tin Peaches                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 2 Tins Beans                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 2 Tins Rice                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 13 Tins Tomatoes                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 3 Tins Peas                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 1 Tin Salmon                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 1 Tin Baby Food                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 2 Tins Green Beans                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 116 Packs Potatoes                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | Due to Decomposition |
| All condemned due to breakdown of refrigerator |     |     |     |     |                      |
| 23 Pkts. Smoked Haddock                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 48 Pkts. Haddock Steaks                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 115 Pkts. Cod Steaks                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 223 Pkts. Cod Fillets                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 36 Pkts. Cod in Butter                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 27 Pkts. Cod in Batter                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 16 Pkts. Cod in Shrimp Sauce                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 19 Pkts Cod Crispy Fries                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 102 Pkts. Kippers                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 116 Pkts. Plaice Fillets                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 28 Pkts. Hake                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 69 Pkts. Fish Cakes                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 269 Pkts. Fish Fingers                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 5 Pkts. Fish Bake                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 104 Pkts. Sliced Roast Beef                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 13 Pkts. Roast Pork                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 26 Pkts. Beef Steaks                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 16 Pkts. Braised Kidney                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 3 Pkts. Roast Chicken in Gravy                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 2 Pkts. Chicken Dinner                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 21 Chickens                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 91 Steak & Kidney Pies                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 32 Chicken Pies                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 8 Turkey Pies                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 43 Shepherds Pies                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 6 Fishermans Pies                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 8 Lamb Casseroles                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |
| 7 Beef Stews                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | " "                  |

|                               |     |     |     |     |   |   |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| 1 Meat & Potato Pie           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 18 Chicken Mushroom Casserole | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 246 Pkts. Beefburgers         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 101 Pkts. Steaklets           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 92 Pkts. Rissoles             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 13 Pkts. Beef Curry           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 25 Pkts. Chicken Curry        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 6 Pkts. Brunchies             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 50 Pkts. Sausage              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 4 Pkts. Sausage Rolls         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 110 Pkts. Fritters            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 19 Pkts. Eclairs              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 124 Trifles                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 17 Sporges                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 83 Mousse                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 21 Pkts. Pastry               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 6 Arctic Rolls                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 8 Orange Juice                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 545 Pkts. Peas                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 38 Pkts. Broad Beans          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 169 Pkts. Brussels Sprouts    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 53 Pkts Chips                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 66 Pkts. Mixed Vegetables     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |
| 1 Pkt. Potato Croquettes      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ” | ” |

*Slaughter of Animals Act 1958*  
*The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958*  
*Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 (Amended 1965)*

One private Slaughterhouse is situated at Danygraig Farm, Risca, and is licensed under the above mentioned enactment by this Council. It meets the needs and requirements of local butchers who wish to have their own animals killed. The coming into being of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 as amended in 1965 requires that all animals killed at the slaughterhouse be examined both antimortem and postmortem by an authorised officer of the Local Authority.

There is a full-time slaughterman employed at the Slaughterhouse, all slaughtering being carried out during week days. The Slaughterhouse is well maintained, adequate lairing facilities being provided. The work involved in the slaughtering and dressing of all animals is carried out in a satisfactory manner. A single throw stunning pen is provided at the Slaughterhouse.

Cattle and large pigs are prestunned by use of a captive bolt instrument small pigs and lambs are prestunned with the aid of electric tongs.

The Slaughterhouse is inspected at various intervals by a veterinary officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, and he has on all occasions throughout the year expressed his satisfaction.

During the year three conditions were found in animals in the Slaughterhouse which today are fairly rare, but which underlines the need for all

animals slaughtered for human consumption to be inspected by an authorised officer of the Local Authority. The three conditions I refer to are :—

- (a) One calf was found on postmortem examination to be suffering from umbilical pyaemia, the carcase and all offal being condemned.
- (b) One pig was found on postmortem examination to be suffering from swine erysipelis, the carcase and all offal being condemned.
- (c) One beast was found on postmortem examination to be suffering from cysticerus bovis, viable cysts being found in the masseter muscle and the heart. All the offal was condemned, the carcase being placed in cold storage for a specific time at a specific temperature as set out in the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963.

During the year 2,125 animals were slaughtered. This is a noticeable reduction from 1971, possibly attributed to the rapid increase in the prices of animals purchased at livestock markets which occurred during the year.

The weight of meat and offal condemned was estimated at 2,663 lbs.

Details of the animals slaughtered are as follows :—

|  | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows |     |     | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs  | Goat |
|--|-----------------------------|-----|-----|------|--------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| Number Killed  | ...                         | ... | 153 | —    | 5      | 1394                  | 572   | 1    |
| Number Inspected   | ...                         | ... | 153 | —    | 5      | 1394                  | 572   | —    |
| <b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>   |                             |     |     |      |        |                       |       |      |
| Whole Carcases condemned   | —                           | —   | —   | —    | 1      | 6                     | 1     | —    |
| Carcases of which some part<br>or organ was condemned  | 72                          | —   | —   | —    | —      | 235                   | 69    | —    |
| Percentage of number in-<br>spected affected with the<br>disease other than tuber-<br>culosis and cysticerci | 40.5%                       | —   | —   | —    | —      | 17.2%                 | 12.2% | —    |
| <b>Tuberculosis only</b>   |                             |     |     |      |        |                       |       |      |
| Whole carcasses condemned  | —                           | —   | —   | —    | —      | —                     | —     | —    |
| Carcases of which some part<br>or organ was condemned  | —                           | —   | —   | —    | —      | —                     | 14    | —    |
| Percentage of the number<br>inspected affected with<br>tuberculosis  | —                           | —   | —   | —    | —      | —                     | 2.4%  | —    |
| <b>Cysticerci</b>  |                             |     |     |      |        |                       |       |      |
| Carcases of which some part<br>or organ was condemned  | 1                           | —   | —   | —    | —      | —                     | —     | —    |
| Carcases submitted to treat-<br>ment by refrigeration  | 1                           | —   | —   | —    | —      | —                     | —     | —    |
| Generalised and totalled<br>condemned  | —                           | —   | —   | —    | —      | —                     | —     | —    |



*Prevention of Damage by Pests Acts, 1949*

During the year the Rodent Control Operative has been active in carrying out treatment of infested properties as prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Foods. All commercial and private properties found to be infested were dealt with and on all occasions satisfactory results were obtained, poison bait used for all surface infestations being Warfarin mix.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewer manholes were carried out during the year using sewer Warfarin. From past experience I can say that these sewer treatments have the effect of keeping the degree of infestation to a low level and this has a corresponding beneficial effect on the degree of surface infestations.

It is my intention to employ a firm of Pest Control specialists to carry out the sewer treatment in the Spring of next year using Fluoracetamide as a poison. Fluoracetamide is being advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food for use in sewers.

A pleasing aspect is the growing consciousness of the problem of rodent infestations among the general public, and we find that apart from the infestations found during routine inspections, people are becoming more co-operative in quickly reporting any infestations by rats and mice.

The following table gives details of the infestations dealt with during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1972 :—

|                                     |  | <b>Type of Property</b> |              |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------|
|                                     |  | Non-<br>Agricultural    | Agricultural |
| <b>Properties other than sewers</b> |  |                         |              |
| 1.                                  | Number of properties in district ... ..  | 6830                    | 12           |
| 2.                                  | a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification       | 271                     | —            |
|                                     | b. Number infested by  |                         |              |
|                                     | (i) Rats   | 262                     | —            |
|                                     | (ii) Mice  | 9                       | —            |
| 3.                                  | a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | 14                      | —            |
|                                     | b. Number infested by  |                         |              |
|                                     | (i) Rats   | 13                      | —            |
|                                     | (ii) Mice  | 1                       | —            |



### *Milk Supplies*

During the year 27 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Laboratory for analysis. The milk was subjected to two tests—the phosphate test and the methylene blue test. All the samples submitted proved to be satisfactory.

The phosphatase test indicates that the milk has been pasteurised correctly and that raw milk has not been added after pasteurisation. The methylene blue test is an indication as to the keeping quality of the milk.

The two main sources of supply are the Unigate Dairy, Marshfield and the C.W.S. Dairy, Trecynon.

Sampling of school milk is carried out regularly to ensure that it is of a suitable standard for consumption by children.

During the year two complaints were received concerning dirty milk bottles, in both cases the person making the complaint did not wish for proceedings to be taken against the Company concerned, but we as a Department did thoroughly investigate both complaints.

Today the Dairy industry is a well geared industry but they themselves have problems. The Manager of the Dairy which supplied one of the bottles which was the subject of the complaint on being interviewed stated that the industry generally was going through a crisis period in relation to the return of milk bottles. In his own plant some 100,000 bottles per week were having to be replaced due to bottles not being returned. He explained that the average number of times a bottle was being re-used was down to 15 as opposed to some few years ago when the average was 45/50. He added that the condition of some of the bottles being returned left much to be desired, bottles being used after being emptied of milk for a variety of purposes, and then being placed, sometimes unwashed, out for the milkman for return.

We are now living in an age of disposable bottles and it would appear that the Dairy industry is suffering as a direct result of all other manufacturers encouraging the general public to throw away rather than return.

With the question of the general improvement of the environment and the current forecast that we are using up an ever increasing rate the raw materials, one wonders if in the not too distant future there will be a shortage of glass for the making of bottles.

### *Housing*

During the year 38 private houses were completed within the district on various small private developments. This number compares with 12 which were completed during the year 1971.

We saw during the year the completion of the warden controlled complex at St. Mary's Court, Risca, the accommodation comprised of 16 double flatlets consisting of living room, bedroom, scullery and bathroom, and 16 bedsitter flatlets consisting of living room with bedroom annexe opening off living room, scullery and bathroom. There is a communal lounge offering a colour television set, a communal laundry and a visitor's bedroom which can be used by any person who visits any of the tenants of the flat-

lets. The accommodation is warden controlled, the warden living in a 3-bed-roomed flat situated on the ground floor.

Since the opening at the middle of the year, I have heard nothing but praise from the residents of the flats. It is hoped that the Risca area will see further developments of this nature.

Also during the year a start was made on the erection of 10 2-person flatlets at Tysign.

It is pleasing to note that we as an Authority are endeavouring to provide accommodation for the needs of all. When visiting certain houses comprised of 2 living rooms, scullery, and 3 bedrooms, and finding them occupied by one person living alone, one cannot but help think of the accommodation being wasted at a time when there still exists a general housing shortage.

During the year 146 applications for discretionary grants were approved, also 9 applications for standard grants. 51 discretionary grants were completed, together with 11 standard grants.

It is pleasing to note the public response to the encouragement given to both owner occupiers and landlords of tenanted properties to improve their dwellings by the provision of all standard amenities, together with placing the properties in a good state of repair. The payment of 75% of the approved grant expenses is no doubt having an influence on the number of grant applications being made, but unfortunately this is to revert to 50% in June of 1973. It is to be hoped that the pressures by Local Authorities being exerted on the Government to extend the period will prove successful.

There were no clearance orders or compulsory purchase orders made by the Council during the year. However, a number of individual unfit properties were dealt with by the making of Demolition Orders and Closing Orders. Details of the number of properties can be seen in Section D of my report.

#### *Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963*

The Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963 applies to all offices, shops and railway premises at which persons are employed. The enforcement of the Act is split between two authorities, namely—Local Authority and H.M. Factory Inspectorate.

As a general rule, all offices and shops come within the jurisdiction of the Local Authority. Railway premises come within the jurisdiction of H.M. Factory Inspectorate. In certain cases where offices or shops are located on premises and the factory section forms the bulk of the operation, then in these cases the office or shop, as the case may be, comes within the jurisdiction of the Factory Inspector. The Act does not apply to shops and offices where the only employees are close relatives of the employer, neither to premises where the total number of hours of all employees employed is less than 21 hours per week.

The aspects of health, safety and welfare which are regulated by the Act are — Cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, condition of floors, passages and stairs, danger from machinery, noise and vibration, prohibition of heavy work by certain classes of employees, first-aid facilities, and fire precautions.



You will see below a breakdown of the number of premises registered within the area, also a record of the number of visits made to registered premises. During the visits certain contraventions were noted and were brought to the notice of the person responsible.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

| CLASS OF PREMISES  | Number of premises registered during year | Total No. registered premises at end of year | Number of registered premises receiving general inspection during year | Number of persons employed |
|--|---|--|--|----------------------------|
| Offices ... ..   | 2   | 29   | 16   | 94                         |
| Retail Shops ... ..                                      | 4   | 65   | 42   | 216                        |
| Wholesale shops, Warehouses ...                          | —   | 7  | 7  | 37                         |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... | —   | 9  | 9  | 32                         |
| Fuel storage depots ...                                  | —   | —  | —  | —                          |
| TOTALS ...   | 6   | 110  | 74   | 379                        |

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspector to registered premises — 162.

Total number of persons employed 379 — Males 115, Females 264.

*Food and Drugs Act, 1955*

*Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970*

*Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966*

Routine inspections have continued to be made during the year to all premises in which food is manufactured or sold. Where contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 have been observed the contraventions have been brought to the notice of the person responsible. Inspection of mobile delivery vehicles have also taken place during the year, as a result of which I am pleased to report a noticeable improvement has been affected. Further inspections of mobile delivery vehicles are to be carried out in order to ensure that the improvement is maintained.

During the year a number of complaints were received by me concerning food purchased being not of the nature, substance or quality as demanded by the purchaser, contrary to Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955. In all cases the person making the complaint did not wish for any formal action to be taken, but we as a Department did carry out a thorough investigation in relation to each complaint involving both the proprietor of the store from where the product had been purchased, together with the manufacturer of the product concerned.

## *Health Services and Public Health Act 1968*

### *Infectious Diseases*

It will be seen from the Medical Officer of Health's report the number of notifications of infectious diseases received during the year. Where necessary all notified cases of infectious diseases were visited promptly and all efforts made to trace any possible source of infection. This is particularly so in the case of Food Poisoning and Dysentery. Specimens of faeces are sent to the laboratory for confirmation of the disease in respect of both these diseases.

During the year it was necessary to serve notices on 2 persons, one who had been notified as suspected of suffering from Dysentery, the other suspected to be suffering from Food Poisoning, both persons being engaged in the food trade. The case involving the food handler suspected to be suffering from Dysentery, on submitting faeces specimen it was found that the specimen was negative and the person was allowed to return to work. In the case of the food handler suspected to be suffering from Food Poisoning, faeces specimen was submitted and was found to be positive, organisms of the Salmonella group being isolated. Numerous faeces specimens were taken and eventually three consecutive negative results were obtained. The person was then allowed to return to work.

A number of children were notified as suspected to be suffering from Dysentery. Again in all cases the parents were asked to keep their child from school until the results of the faeces specimens were obtained. In 3 cases positive results were received, and the children concerned were not allowed to attend school until 3 consecutive negative results had been obtained.

In the case of obtaining faeces specimens, the co-operation of either the parent or the person notified is all important, and I am glad to report that on all occasions full co-operation was received.

### *Verminous Premises*

During routine house inspection of both private and Council properties, care is taken to ascertain any infestation by vermin.

Any cases which are found in this way and those which are reported by tenants are dealt with by spraying with an approved insecticide and satisfactory results have been obtained. 32 houses found to be infested with vermin were dealt with in this way and eradication effected.

The commonly held attitude that bed bugs (*Cimex lectularious*) and fleas (*Pulex irritans*) are a thing of the past is not so. Infestations of both were dealt with during the year. It does not follow that infestations were only in houses where the standard of cleanliness was not good. Domestic ~~pests~~ *PESTS* can be introduced into the cleanest of houses, and in this respect may I give a warning to persons contemplating purchasing second-hand furniture, clothing, etc., to ensure that they thoroughly inspect all articles of furniture and clothing for the presence of any infestation.



During the year a number of complaints were received by me of beetles in houses. On inspecting the houses in question the beetles were found to be woodworm beetles (*Anobium punctatum*), which emerge from their flight holes during the late Spring and early Summer. Again I would like to impress upon people to ensure that any wooden article of furniture which they buy does not show evidence of woodworm infestation, easily recognisable by the presence of flight holes.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

GLYN M. JENKINS, Public Health Inspector.







